Saturday, December 18, 2010 ★★★ 20 sections / Vol. 26 / No. 10 P18 | www.inquirer.net | Mobile Alert: Text INQ ON BREAKING to 4467

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS



A TOUCH OF PH IN ROME The Vatican Nativity Scene this year includes Filipino fishermen with their catch and farmers balancing baskets of fruits (inset), all created by Davao-based sculptor Kublai Ponce-Millan.

'Morong 43' finally free

Trillanes, Garcia also awaiting release order

By Kristine L. Alave and Nita Calleja

THE RELEASE of the health workers collectively known as "Morong 43" had been awaited all week, but when it was finally ordered by the courts yesterday, its shine was partly dimmed by the anticipated release of former military comptroller Carlos Garcia and ex-rebel officer Sen. Antonio Trillanes.

As of 11 p.m. last night, all 23 women detainees held in Camp Bagong Diwa in Bicutan had been released to the cheers and hugs of relatives waiting for hours for them.

The women walked out of detention with raised fists. They had been held for 10 months and seven days.

The release was expected to continue through the night.

"[The release orders] mean that our clients have won in fighting for the dropping of the trumped-up charges against them. This is their victory and of their countless supporters," said lawyer Jules Matibag.

Detained since February for alleged membership in the New People's Army (NPA), the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, the health workers were ordered freed after the regional and municipal trial courts of Morong dismissed the charges against them late yesterday afternoon.

The charges—illegal possession of firearms and explosives and violation of the election gun ban—were withdrawn by the Department of Justice early this week on President Aquino's

'MORONG 43' / A6

HK wants 100 PH witnesses to testify

HONG KONG—The Hong Kong government has asked more than 100 Filipino witnesses to testify at a public inquiry into the fatal hijacking in Manila last August that left eight Hong Kong tourists dead, reports said yesterday.

Jat Sew-tong, a lawyer for the Hong Kong justice department, said the 116 witnesses include Manila Mayer Alfredo Lim, who is facing administrative sanctions over the authorities' failed rescue operation, la-

HK WANTS / A6

Mikey hits critics; SC under fire

By Fe Zamora and Michael Lim Ubac

PARTY-LIST REP. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo yesterday defended his right to represent security guards and drivers in Congress, as militant lawmakers slammed the Supreme Court for declining to rule on a protest seeking his disqualification.

Arroyo welcomed the high court's move remanding to the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal (HRET) a peti-

MIKEY / A4



SIC TRANSIT GLORIA ... Old P200 bill features President Arroyo; tarsier topbills new P200 bill.

GMA 'disappears' from new ₱200 bill



By Michelle V. Remo

NEXT time you get hold of a new, crisp P200 bill, don't be surprised if you find it difficult to locate the picture of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. It has been relegated to a small corner of the bill and the new dominant photo is that of the tarsier, a specially protected animal species found in a few places in

GMA 'DISAPPEARS' / A6

Pinoys served drinks in wild Saudi party

By Jerry E. Esplanada

HIRED as bartenders, an undisclosed number of Filipino migrant workers were among those present at a wild Halloween party thrown by a young Saudi prince in 2009, according to a confidential memo from the US Consulate in Jeddah released by WikiLeaks, the online whistle-blower.

Aside from sex with "working girls," prostitutes, drugs and alcohol—all of which are strictly forbidden in the Islamic kingdom—were available during the "underground" party attended by more than 150 Saudi "men and women, mostly in

PINOYS / A6

Sandigan frees general facing plunder charges

By Leila B. Salaverria

JUST IN TIME for Christmas, the Sandiganbayan antigraft court yesterday ordered the release of former military comptroller Carlos Garcia, who had been detained for the past six years while on trial for amassing P303 million in ill-gotten assets.

The Sandiganbayan Second Division has granted Garcia's petition for bail and ordered the Philippine National Police to release him from its custody.

Though he was on trial for the non-bailable capital offense of plunder, Garcia managed to strike a plea bargain with state prosecutors last Thursday, under which he pleaded guilty to the lesser and bailable offenses of direct bribery and money laundering.

SANDIGAN / A6

TELLING THE FILIPINO STORY TO THE WORLD

Editors' Note: For 25 days, we will be telling stories about the Inquirer to mark the paper's 25th anniversary on Dec. 9, 2010. Some are little inside stories but impacting on how we cover and bring the news; some are make-the-day stories that became talk of the town; others are running news stories that have changed the landscape of history; still others, big or small, seize the heart and mind.

But whatever, the Inquirer will tell you the story.

'Steady Eddie' romanced the media

By Juliet Labog-Javellana
Day Desk Editor

THE ATMOSPHERE was tense, officials were nervous and reporters were edgy. After all, how do you ask the President of the republic about a rumored love affair?

In October 1993, the Inquirer ran a series of the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism about then President Fidel V. Ramos' alleged affair with socialite Rosemarie "Baby" Arenas.

A top Palace official pleaded with reporters not to raise the

STEADY / A6



Inquirer
Revolutionary government!

THE MOSQUITO PRESS LOOK



Inquirer
'What a great gift we've lost'

ONE-DAY YELLOW SALUTE

Evolution of Inquirer front page

By Lynett A. Villariba
Design Director

PASSION and panic characterize the evolution of the Inquirer look that readers identify with.

Produced out of a guerrilla-type operation, the Inquirer posed a reading challenge 25 years ago when "visual" was not yet part of journalism and before computer desktop publishing came to be. After all, the alternative press was derided by then President Ferdinand Marcos as the "mosquito press" pestering his controlled media environment.

EVOLUTION / A2

Second FRONT PAGE

SC: Webb acquittal is final

THE SUPREME Court yesterday virtually shut down as an exercise in futility a plan to seek a reversal of the tribunal's decision acquitting Hubert Webb and six others of the Vizconde massacre case.

Aquino orders new Vizconde slay probe



Abu terrorist faces prison term in US

Anticrime crusader quits 'in disgust'



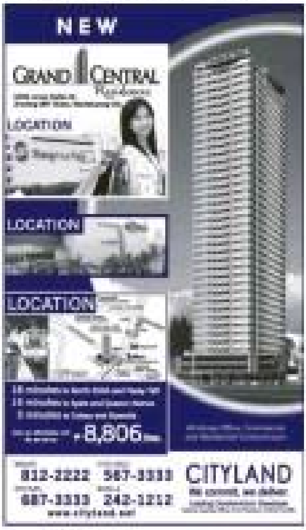
FATHER OF LUXURY RETAILING



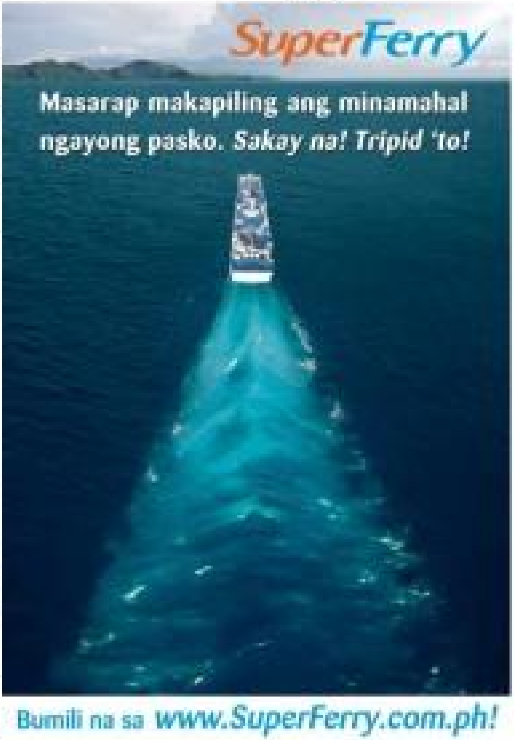
SLEx to hike toll by 300% starting Jan. 1

Recovering P14B

Discounted rate









'Morong 43' finally free after 10 months

Order covers all

Happy day but ...

Kin's vigil

Sandigan frees general facing plunder charges



Sure win

Bureaucratic snag

Going for the sure thing

Too late for plea bargain

'It's the law'

Mikey hits back at critics; SC comes under fire

Mikey explains side

Coddling the Arroyos

Grounds for disqualification

2001 ruling

Budget for condoms: From ₱880M to zero

By Christian V. Esguerra

FROM P880 million to nil.

The Department of Health (DOH) has lost a significant part of its budget intended for the purchase of condoms and other types of contraceptives for next year.

Senate Majority Leader Vicente Sotto III yesterday said lawmakers saw the reason behind the purported strategy to set aside budget for contraceptives to make up for the delay in the passage of reproductive health (RH) law.

"Wrong compensation (sic). (They) were asking me for a ride," he told the Inquirer in a phone interview.

'Leveraging services'

Groups opposed to the RH bill are also critical of the supposed tactic to introduce a similar measure in local governments in the form of ordinances.

In reconciling the Senate's and House of Representatives' versions of the P1.645-trillion national budget, the bicameral conference committee agreed to cut P200 million from the DOH's P880-million allocation for "leveraging services" and purchase of contraceptives, according to Sotto.

The senator said the P200-million budget would now be spent on the maintenance and other operating expenses of state universities and colleges.

The remaining P680 million was allocated solely for "family health, responsible parenting and maternal care," Sotto said the new item means that the DOH could not use it to buy condoms and other contraceptives.

"If they use it for contraceptives, we will question them next year. They would have a lot of explaining to do," he said.

Sotto said the new allocation would include prenatal care, immunization, information campaign to help curb maternal deaths and infant mortality, and other community-based health programs.

Preservation of life

"If you notice, the allocation is intended purely for the preservation of life," he said.

Going into the conference committee, senators drastically reduced the DOH's initial P880-million budget for contraceptives, leaving only P8 million to be used exclusively for condoms.

But even the P8-million allocation was lost during the deliberations.

Sotto, who was part of the Senate contingent, said the DOH was again asked to explain where exactly it intended to spend P880 million. He said he presented the written explanation to Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile who suggested that all spending on contraceptives be stricken off the 2011 budget.

Sotto said the new proposal encountered no major difficulty with the House panel, which included Minority Leader Edcel Lagman, chief proponent of the RH bill.

"My thesis was strong—the forum was not the venue for debates on the RH bill," he said.





Corrections

IN THE DEC. 17 ISSUE, a front-page story carried an erroneous headline. It should have read: "Year of Rabbit seen lucky for P-Noy in love, duty?"—not "Year of Bat seen lucky for P-Noy in love duty?"

* * *

The Daily Gospel

Saturday, December 18, 2010
3rd Week of Advent

1st Reading: Jer 23:5-8
Gospel: Mt 1:18-25

This is how Jesus Christ was born. Mary his mother had been given to Joseph in marriage but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

Then Joseph her husband, made plans to divorce her in all secrecy. He was an upright man, and in no way did he want to discredit her.

While he was pondering over this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. She has conceived by the Holy Spirit, and now she will bear a son. You shall call him Jesus for he will save his people from their sins."

All this happened in order to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and bear a son, and he will be called Emmanuel which means: God-with-us. When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do and he took his wife to his home. He did not have marital relations with her until she gave birth to a son and he had named him Jesus.

Commentary



GMA 'disappears' from new ₱200 bill





THE WHALE SHARK, locally known as "butanding," and Mt. Mayon grace the reverse side of the new ₱100 bill.

'New generation' bills

Hard to fake

Pinoys served drinks in wild Saudi party, says WikiLeaks

3rd PH-related memo

OFWs serving moonshine

Nightlife driven underground

Migrants caught unaware

HK wants 100 Philippine witnesses to testify

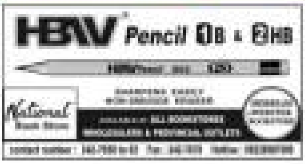
Full cooperation

PH to pay compensation

Black travel alert

'OPTIMIZING REVENUE SOURCES'

Gov't eyes royalties from mines





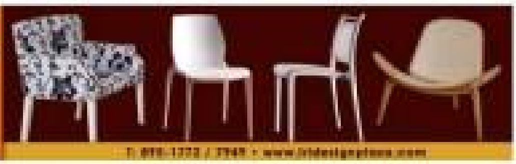
Customs exceeds '09 take but falls short of target

Non-cash assets

Cannot meet goal

Stay close to God, Witnesses told





'Steady Eddie' romanced the media

Straight from horse's mouth

24/7 schedule



President was in good

Ramos: I'm fit for '97, '98...

16-hour days

'UST' and 'CSW'

4Ks

FVR Jr.

Evolution of Inquirer front page



TRIPLE TREAT Three headlines in the Feb. 23, 1986, edition of the Inquirer.



Cloistered news

Poised news

News in color

Creating the wallpaper

Infographics

'LEGITIMATE ACT OF WAR'

Reds defend deadly Samar ambush

By Dona Pazzibugan

Young casualty

Samar 10

Treacherous intent

Tax informant sues gov't for ₱1-B reward

By Leila B. Salaverria

Connivance


















Now I can share even more -
Globe

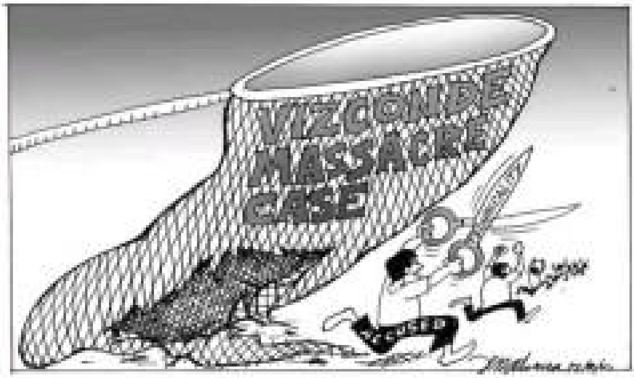

T@ttoo SuperStick
TATTOO'S MOST POWERFUL
MOBILE BROADBAND
T@ttoo NO LIMITS

INQUIRER

OPINION

Criminal misconduct

EDITORIAL



That Oslo snub

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

Vindicated

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

A conference of 'happiness researchers'

SOCIAL CLIMATE



Mahar Mangahas

'First Language First' myths

COMMENTARY

Butch Hernandez

Effectively combating poverty

BUSINESS MATTERS



Dr. Bernardo M. Villegas

Oreo

YOUNG BLOOD

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:

The INQUIRER is a member of the PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE



The big 'lie' that is Joma Sison

LETTERS

Arming judges, fiscals, lawyers not a wise move



Across the NATION

Kidnappings won't cease in Basilan

CRIME groups have gone berserk in Basilan, kidnapping another victim in the province barely a week after the release of a school principal who had been held captive for about a month.



BIKING SANTA

Baguio court rules bingo not illegal, should go on

2 Calabarzon cops tagged in trader's slay

E-jeeps to take over streets of Iloilo City soon

OFWs in Afghanistan protest airport mulcting

"We must point out that one of the primary reasons we chose to work in conflict-ridden places ... is the dearth of opportunities in our country."

INQUIRER Visayas

A school in the homes of children with cancer

By Cris Evert B. Lato
Cebu City

NINE-YEAR-OLD Kianna Christa Kasayan loved to sing and read books as a Grade 2 pupil in an elementary school in Cordova, the lone town on Mactan Island in Cebu.

[illegible]

First of its kind

[illegible]

> 'The concept is to make the home as the venue for learning instead of a formal school where learning takes place in classrooms'

Milestones

[illegible]



NINE-YEAR-OLD Kianna Christa W. Kasayan, one of the 23 beneficiaries of the [illegible] program, sang during the [illegible] anniversary of Kapwa Ko, Mahal Ko Cebu Chapter and the launching of education program.



COL. DALE Smith of the US Marines hands a gift to one of the Calvary children at the Bacolod-Silay airport.

US Marines play Santa to neglected Negrense kids

By Carla P. Gomez
Bacolod City

THESE three American soldiers—crew of a US Marines airplane—flew a total of eight hours between Negros Occidental and Japan for just one mission: to deliver gifts to a group of abandoned, neglected and handicapped Negrense children.

[illegible]

Sunga, three others back-to-back PSC tennis champs



Que fires 72, slips to share of ninth spot in Thailand

Tabuena ties for Open lead

Catches Salvador with a 67

US rider rules Lanao int'l moto; Glenn 3rd



NCBL tourney: Xavier widens lead vs LSGH

The PH booters and their 12th man

SOUTHPAW



Percy D. Della

SPORTSWATCH

PhilCycling dangles 4 Asian tilt track berths

No sulking for buoyant PH booters



By Cedelf P. Tupas

JAKARTA—It was a defeat that failed to put a dent on the Philippine Team's morale.

Etheridge: Mistake will make me stronger



By Cedelf P. Tupas

Simon saves D. Ace in q'final thriller

Patriots battle Slingers; feisty Freeman returns

By Jasmine W. Payo

SPORTSWATCH

Southwoods Chairman's Charity Cup tees off today

Elorde boxing, derby tonight

Chinese cagers thwart Blue Birds' late surge



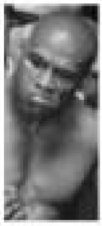
Fracture puts Yao career in jeopardy



BOSTON Celtics forward Kevin Garnett scores off a jam. AP

Minus key stars, Celtics nail 12th straight triumph

Vegas judge orders Mayweather arrest



MAYWEATHER



PACQUIAO: Birthday boy

More graces flow as Pacquiao celebrates 32nd birthday

Senate asks: Where did Fifa money go?

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo



Pacman rules boxing; Haye-Klitschko eyed



SPORTS

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres
Assistant Editor Francis T.J. Ochoa

Simon saves Llamados in 2 OT; Aces triumph

By Musong R. Castillo

PETER JUNE SIMON scored 33 points, including a pair of crucial baskets in the second extension last night as the B-Meg Derby Ace Llamados outlasted the Meralco Bolts, 106-97, for a 1-0 lead in their best-of-three quarterfinal series in the PBA Philippine Cup at the Big Dome.

Derby Ace turned to Simon in the second extension when James Yap picked up his sixth foul early in the first overtime and the hot-shooting guard drained a jumper from the key-hole in the two-minute mark that gave

Aplus METRO

More tankers get truck ban exemptions

MMDA move aimed at preventing fuel shortage in Metro Manila

THE METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has granted additional truck ban exemptions to fuel tankers and lorries of other oil industry firms to prevent a fuel shortage that could result from the continued closure of the First Philippine Industrial Corp. (FPIC) pipeline.

Fuel demand

Antismoke belching drive suspended in Quezon City



BAUTISTA



Katrina to file appeal on case vs Hayden Kho in CA

Godfather of smugglers

ON TARGET





A TICKLISH AFFAIR

3 men posing as frat members nabbed for rob

By Jeannette I. Andrade

Taguig, Manila welcome returning boxing champion

METROBRIEFS

Computer shop employee stabbed dead

Reinforced police visibility for Las Piñas City



MANDALUYONG CITY'S NEW BARANGAY HEADS



POPE Benedict XVI leads a Vespers prayer in St.Peter's Basilica at the Vatican on Dec. 16. AP

Pope: Christians the most persecuted

Tobacco firm ordered to pay $81M for hooking kids on cigarettes



HENRY McCarty, aka Billy the Kid, reputed to have killed 21 men, in undated photograph. AP FILE

US governor weighs pardon for Billy the Kid

Seconds before blast, Iraqi decided to be a hero

By Jack Healy

US director Blake Edwards dead at 88



JULIE Andrews with husband Blake Edwards in 1992 photo. AP

Germany to begin pullout from Afghanistan next year



The WORLD

N. Korea threatens to use nuclear arms in war with South

SEOUL—North Korea warned that another war with South Korea would involve nuclear weapons, as diplomatic efforts continued on Friday to ease high tensions over its atomic ambitions and deadly artillery attack.

Berms to block BP oil spill were 'waste of money'

Assange freed on bail, vows more data releases



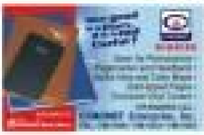
WIKILEAKS founder Julian Assange

IN THIS ISSUE

■ Nickel Asia net profit surged 469% in January-September B2

BUSINESS

Editor: Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor: Dennis B. Martinez



Contact center revenues to hit $8B in '11

Employment seen reaching 350,000 by end-2010

By Abigail L. Ho

THE CONTACT center boom is not about to let up and is expected to gain even more steam in the coming years, with revenues for next year seen approaching $8 billion.

Benedict Hernandez, president of the Contact Center Association of the Philippines, said the industry was poised to grow around 23 percent this year to [illegible] billion, from [illegible] billion in 2009.

In terms of employment, the contact center industry alone was expected to add about 70,000 employees, which would bring the 2010 total to 350,000 people.

Over the next decade, he said growth should be about 15-20 percent for both revenue and employment.

However, he said the government should also do its part to help the industry by ensuring a stable exchange rate, [illegible]

CONTACT / B4

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

Dec. 10, 2010

44.200



STOCK MARKET

Dec. 10, 2010

17.93



Stocks end higher

[illegible]

Paolo G. Montecillo

PAL to use Boeing 777 for Canada flights

By Paolo G. Montecillo

FLAG CARRIER Philippine Airlines (PAL) is considering more cost-cutting measures for 2011 to help the company cope with steadily rising oil prices and increased competition in the air travel industry.

Part of these plans will be the deployment of one of its two flagship Boeing 777 aircraft for direct flights to Vancouver, Canada, starting March next year as the airline aims to maximize the profits made from the long-haul route.

[illegible]

PAL / B4

Nickel Asia net profit surged 469% in January-September

Firm cites increased output, higher metal prices

[illegible]

First Gen signs $100-M credit facility with BDO

[illegible]

Cebu Pacific seen ready for increased competition

[illegible]

EDC to outsource drilling requirements

[illegible]

Contact center . . .

[illegible]

PAL to use Boeing 777 . . .

[illegible]

Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Currencies

[illegible]

SBMA to include Hermosa, Bataan in freeport

Move seen helping investors

Gaisano expands to Southern Leyte

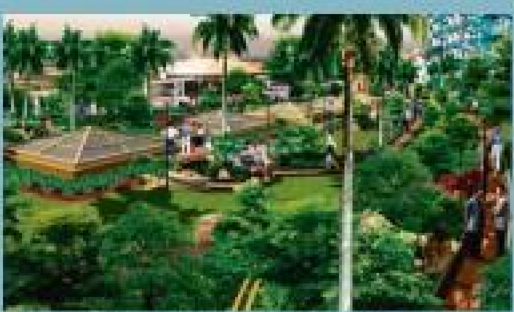
Seair launches flight from Clark to Singapore



RMD Kwikform raised over than P70,000 for the Lighthouse Club Charity

Manhattan-style project maintains strong sales







To make a potential investment at Manhattan Heights, please call Megaworld, the #1 and trusted residential condominium developer in the country, at 810-3333, visit the showroom at the 3rd level of Gateway Mall, or check out www.themanhattangardencity.com.

"With men, it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible."

– Mark 10:27

JESUS S. HIPOLITO

Died peacefully on December 16, 2010 at the age of 83.

His wife **Soledad** (†); children **Norman**; **Rowena**; **Ronald** and **Michele**; **Lingling**; **Boy** and **Jessica**; sister **Jovita** and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Mount Carmel Chapel, Mount Carmel Shrine Parish, Broadway Avenue, New Manila, Quezon City.

Interment will be at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City on Tuesday, December 21, 2010 after the 9:00 a.m. Funeral Mass.

In Memory of Our Beloved

VICENTE CHUA

Macario Romasanta Rodil

Death Notice

EDUARDO S. AYALDE

RAFAEL TAYAG FAJARDO

ROSARIO C. GAHOL

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

John 3:16

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MEDICAL DOCTORS

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATIONS FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMITS (AEPS)

ERRATUM

PNOC EXPLORATION CORPORATION

INVITATION TO BID (Re-Bid)

PEOPLE'S CREDIT & FINANCE CORPORATION

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

First Laguna Electric Cooperative, Inc.

INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE OF MERGER



THE ACADEMY OF HOPE AT RADYO DZIQ 990

Business

Banks' exposure to bad debts dropped in Oct.

NPL ratio said to be 'very comfortable'

Oil prices expected to surge in 2011

GSIS members to receive ₱908M in cash dividends

BSP set to turn over ₱14B in dividends to gov't

PROPERTY

Editor Cesar D. Mangawang

12 reasons to retire in an organic farm estate

By Tessa R. Salazar

RETIREMENT AND farming go together perfectly well. Just ask organic farmers and property developers, who are increasingly recommending retirees to go for farm estates more than any other type of property development.

"Retirees will enjoy at least five more decades, peaceful and healthy years of their lives with an organic and hobby farm," Pablito Malabanan Villegas, owner of the Villegas Organic and Hobby Farm, recently told Inquirer Property.

"A growing number of hobby farmers who enjoy cultivating their very own farm lots see the importance of organic farming, which Mandala Residential Farm Estate fully endorses," said Albert G. Morales, assistant vice president of Timberland Heights.

Bangsal Kabkaraw president Joey C. Papa enumerated six reasons retirees should invest in organic farms. He emphasized, however, that buyers should thoroughly examine their prospective lots and the farm estate developer's background and expertise in organic farming. Here are six reasons for investing:

1 Retirees can help promote organic farming in line with the new organic agriculture act.

2 They can add to the supply of organic produce.

3 They can help protect the environment, by using pollution- and chemical-free soil, water, air and thus reduce global warming.

4 They can help protect the health of farmers and consumers.

5 By adding more organic producers, retirees can help reduce prices of organic produce.

6 They can help preserve and maintain Philippine agricultural lands.

Aside from Papa, whom you can contact through his e-mail at bangsalkabkaraw@yahoo.com, Manu Pablo de Tavera, a recognized authority in organic products, can help responsible agricultural and agro development. You can e-mail Manu at organic@yahoo.com.

Villegas, for his part cites his own reasons:

7 Retirees have ready access to physical and mental exercise while tilling the soil and caring for the plants and animals.

8 They enjoy clean air and environment, free from pollution.

9 Retirees get the opportunity to learn more about plants and ecology.

10 The wellness lifestyle offered by organic farming is far from the maddening crowds and stressful city life.

11 Retirees grow their own safe, chemical- and toxin-free foods and microbials.

12 They achieve peace of mind, body and soul while communing with nature.

"In organic farms, we care for the health of retirees while they nurture the earth for future generations to enjoy," said Villegas, who specialized at the UP College of Agriculture in 1969, and is now a small-scale farm estate developer. As he helped develop the Sustainable Agriculture and Entrepreneurship Learning Center (SAGE) where the technology is sourced, generated, tested and transferred to organic farming communities, he has asked retirees and senior citizens to participate and learn the basics of organic farming at the Villegas Organic farms. Check his blogspot at www.villegasfarmcomplex.multiply.com. His model of organic farm can be found near the Star Highway at Malvar Exit in Batangas. The lot prices are at P800 per sq m. His undeveloped farm lots in Sto. Tomas Batangas is at P440 per sq m.

Morales said the Mandala Residential Farm Estates in Timberland Heights offers those interested a chance to "go back to basics." He disclosed that the minimum lot sizes at the Mandala Residential Farm Estates is at 750 sq m, while the average lot size is 1,200 sq m. Price at Mandala farm estate starts at P4 million.

"Timberland Heights offers the ease of ownership for Mandala Estates because we provide buyers flexible installment for up to three years and the longest term is 10 years," Morales added. Filinvest Land has encouraged the propagation of worms for vermi-composting, among others. Filinvest's "highland farming" also has to its advantage a year-round cool climate and nice mountainscape views.

If you have unique ideas about your property or organic farm you would like to share with our readers, please e-mail the author at tsalazar@inquirer.com.ph.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

5 ways to keep your heart healthy this Christmas



More effective way of diagnosing, treating GERD

Mindful at mealtimes

DISCOVER



A 'healthy' decision for Philippine healthcare

MEDICAL FILES





Living large in QC

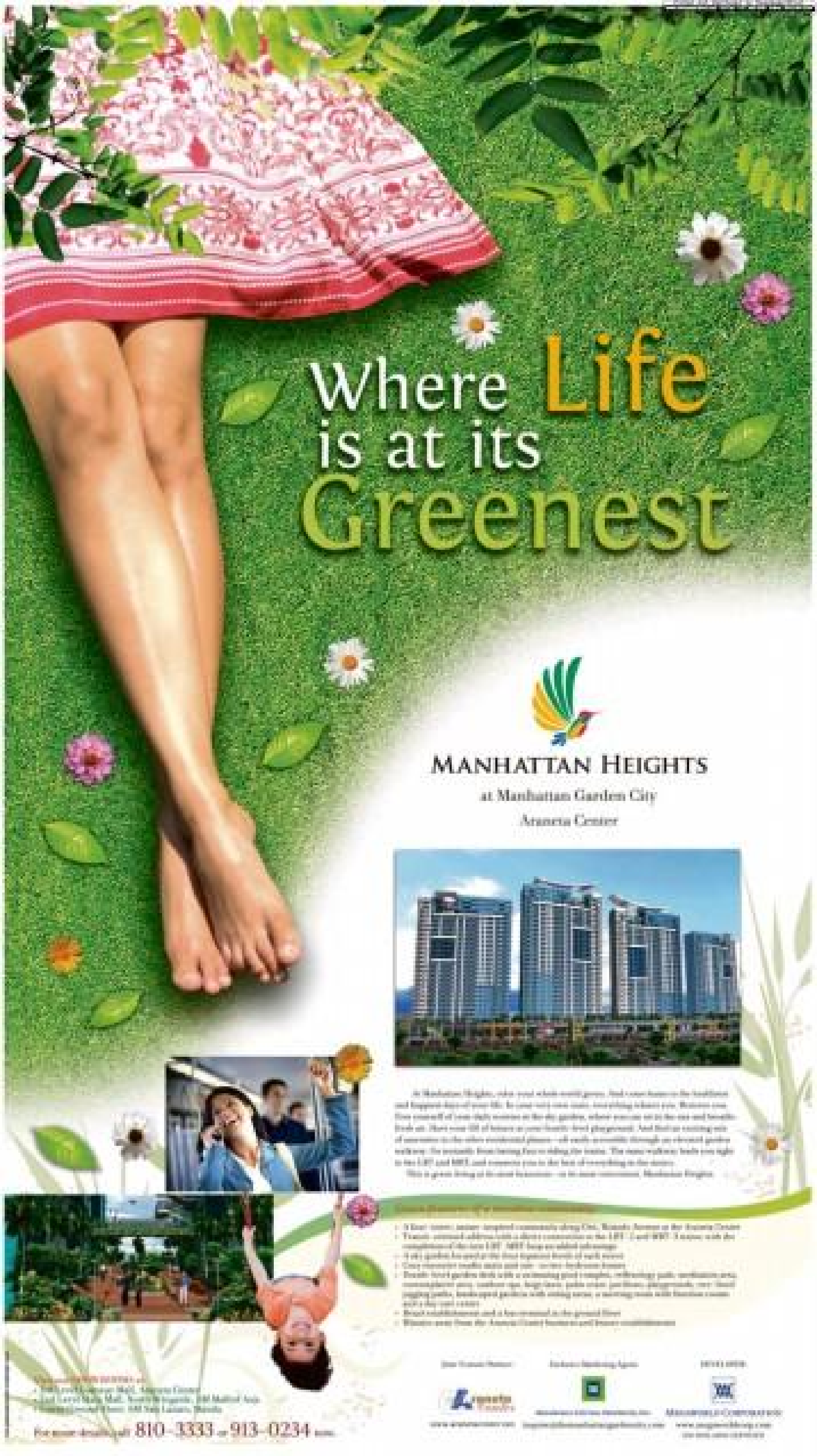
Moldex Realty breaks ground its newest vertical pride

Developers need to avoid costly mistakes to cash in on tourism boom



Women prefer WW Deckstyle for their floors





Where Life is at its Greenest
MANHATTAN HEIGHTS
at Manhattan Garden City
Araneta Center
810-3333 or 913-0234

Super LifeStyle
style . urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation
Editor: Thelma Sioson San Juan
Saturday Editor: Pam Pastor



How to stay cool in traffic



Don't let the gridlock kill your Christmas spirit; arm yourself with these tips

By Pam Pastor

WHEN IT comes to Christmas, there are some things you just can't escape— your tsunamis, the long lines at the malls and the horrible traffic.

We won't tell you to dodge your tsunamis (come on, you've been there, you know those presents could bring them joy), we can't tell you how to skip the lines (we don't know either) but we know how you can deal with the awful traffic.

When cars are barely moving and your ass hurts from sitting too long and you feel like you will never get to your destination, make the rage go from your head.

There are things you can do to make the traffic bearable. Remember these tips before you leave the house and don't let the gridlock kill your Christmas spirit.

If you're driving

Traffic playlist. Create a special traffic playlist and play it in the car. Choose upbeat and fun songs that will keep you in a good mood. Avoid slow sappy songs that will make you sleepy.

Audio book. If music wouldn't do it, choose an audio book that would entertain you. One of our favorites is "Survivor" by Chuck Palahniuk.

Carpool. Good company can make the travel tolerable. Surround yourself with good friends, spend the time talking and laughing and the minutes would just fly by.

Play games with your passengers. Find out who can spot the most number of white cars. Or add plate numbers the fastest. Or guess the song playing on the radio. Or recite the alphabet backwards.

If you're a passenger

Angry Birds. Bring out your iPod/iPhone/iPad/PC and start hitting those green pigs. A friend claims Angry Birds has been excellent for her relationship. She says her boyfriend never gets impatient while waiting for her because he's too busy playing Angry Birds on his iPad. The same can be true for your relationship with traffic.

Plants vs. Zombies. Join the legions of people who have gotten hooked on this crazy game. Who has time to worry about the traffic outside when the annoying hungry zombies have invaded your roof?

Talk. Some of the world's most meaningful conversations have taken place inside cars. Have one of your own.

Play games with other people in the car. You can even play a car-safe version of Truth or Dare.

Call friends. They would probably be glad to be distracted from the traffic too.

Surf the Internet. If you have a laptop and a broadband dongle, bring it with you and forget the traffic outside as you get sucked into the world of Twitter and Facebook. Grab this chance too to catch up on your e-mails. Just make sure you lock your car doors—you don't want people snatching your gadgets away.

If you're riding public transport

Read. Since it isn't always safe to bring out your gadgets while riding buses or jeeps, arm yourself with books and magazines. I know you grew up hearing people tell you not to read in moving vehicles but you won't get dizzy reading in a jeep that's not moving.

Bring music. Prepare a playlist of your favorite songs and enjoy the music while staring out the window.

Try to find a hottie. Fan of Ugly Betty's Betty Suarez was able to meet her boyfriend in a subway station, who says you wouldn't be able to run into the person of your dreams while stuck in holiday traffic? Just make sure you don't grab a weirdo.





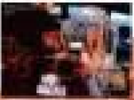
Celebrate the Holidays
at San Miguel by the
SAN MIGUEL
A Bayside Christmas Culinary Experience
Seaside Palms
Firefly Christmas Tree
Samsung's Spectacular Pyromusical Show
The Cruise
The Grand Festival of Lights Parade
Oceans
Harbor View
Pete's Place
HOLIDAY DINING GUIDE

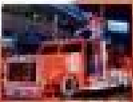
Bay















Lydia's Lechon





by the Bay

Razon's of Guagua





Starbucks



All in for Fun and Dining

Manila Bay Poker Club





SAN MIGUEL by the BAY

Hate the crowds? Here's where to shop

Deal Grocer allows you to get unique deals on various products and services



Gift-wrapping—the easy, inexpensive way



Raid your little brother's room and check for rolls of manila paper, cartolina, kraft paper or art paper



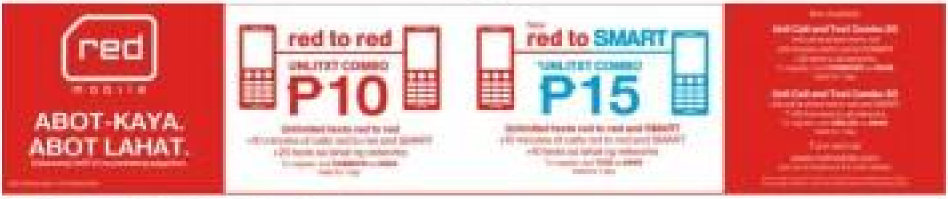
Holiday gifts, according to the stars

Astrology can help you decide what gifts to give your loved ones and friends

The crammer's guide to throwing a Christmas bash at home

For food, cheating is allowed—pizza delivery, pre-bought donuts, booze

Super LifeStyle



THE CRAMMER'S GUIDE TO CHRISTMAS

Last-minute gifts for the last-minute shopper

By Pam Pastor and Tobi Ying

YOUR shopping list is a mile long and you've barely made a dent on it. We don't blame you.

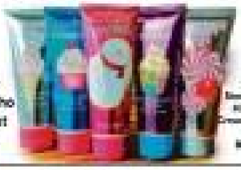
With the heavy traffic, the demands of your daily life, the workload your boss keeps dumping on you, who has time to shop?

We do. Super gives you an early Christmas gift this week. We were busy looking for gifts so you didn't have to.

In these pages, we tell you what to get, where to get them and—here's the best part—who to give it to.

What to get, where to get them and—here's the best part—who to give it to

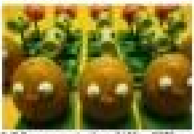
For the friend who wants sweets but not the calories



Simple Pleasures Hand and Body Cream, P345 each, Rustan's The Beauty Source

For the "Plants vs. Zombies" fan





PVZ figures, ranging from P180 to P330. For orders, call 09175444329 or e-mail







Last-minute gifts for the last-minute shopper

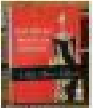


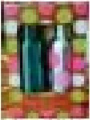






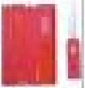




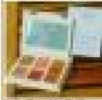
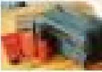






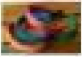


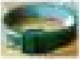






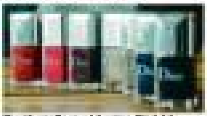



BIG
SALE 2010


citibank
Christmas.
Powered by Citi.
FREE

Last-minute gifts . . .

For nail polish fanatics

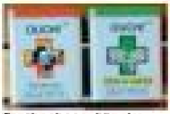




For the friend who loves anything and everything Korean



For the clumsy friend



For the bored employee



For the indecisive



For the friend who wouldn't stop borrowing your USB



For the Gleeks



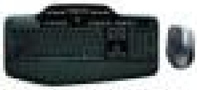




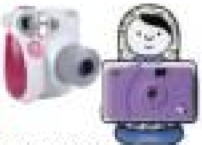
For the constantly busy

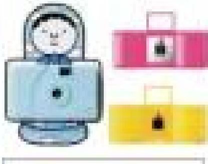


For the gym rat



For the friend who's always in front of the computer





For the shutter-happy



For the bacon lovers

2b LIFESTYLE

Editor: Thelma Sioson San Juan





Best gift: No Christmas homework

A WEEK ago, these high school kids enrolled in an enrichment course on creative writing at the Community of Learners (COL) described the awkwardness that they have dealt with as adolescents: bodily imperfections, including hair in unexpected places like the butt, guilt over lack of compassion for a special classmate, being called names that hurt.

This week, the mood became upbeat as they broke up into four groups to reflect on the spirit of Christmas and string together a dedication to the larger community beyond their classroom.

They approached the exercise in different ways, one group digging into each member's memories of Christmases past, another passing a sheet of paper where each wrote his/her line, all guided by an instruction to steer clear of clichés like "Happy holidays!" And even if in the end, they're really saying that, they cherish the idea of being original. —Elizabeth Lolarga

LOVE, GEORGE

Fun and laughter rising to
The night sky as a bonfire is lit
Choirs of Lolean, supposedly angels
Fill each corner of the school
Gift wrappers being torn
All these sounds put a smile on everyone's face.
To our fellow Batang COL,
We wish you a jolly Christmas
And the splendor of a New Year.
PS. We can enjoy Christmas better
Without homework.
—Claudio Cruz, George Engallan, Luis Mesquera and Charmaine Marbonde

HOLIDAY RHYME

It's that time of the year
When we hear people cheer
We hear a lot of carols
Sometimes they even come from barrels
We feel this, the spirit of Christmas
It is all around us
We light the Christmas tree
That makes us feel so free
Presents are often given
That is a fact already proven
Let's end the season with a cheer
This, after all, is the best time of the year
—Jonathan Cajugan, Harold Rabin de Guzman, Amado Bruno Gambao and Gerry Gandiosa

CELEBRATE, CELEBRATE

A good feast
Being with cousins and grandparents
Exchanging gifts
Enjoying a fancy turkey feast on the table
A Christmas tree illuminating where we gather
Watching the lights of the season
Listening to songs
Showing respect or love to one you don't quite know
Telling that person your intentions
Then breaking out in a sweet, heartwarming smile
Let's be reminded it's also the birth of Christ
Let's be reminded to do good and be kind the next year
Let's not forget it's love we need
Love that means and spells Christmas
—Jearly Kadalim, Derick Francis, Miguel Advincula and Miguel Nava

NEXT/E4

OTT





Full-on feminine



Sweet thing





Style file: Alexa Chung

Make this 'It' girl's style yours



Knit-nik



Androgynous


Make your moment
perfectly lite.
NEW
Nestlé
Coffee-mate
Lite
50%
less fat
GREAT
CREAMY
TASTE

Wonder boy

Michael Concepcion balances his studies, a growing business and a passion for projects—while always looking fresh



DATE NIGHT



MEETING



CHILL DAY



ERRANDS

Best gift: No Christmas homework

2bU LifeStyle

Hello, stranger

–changing the world, one stranger at a time

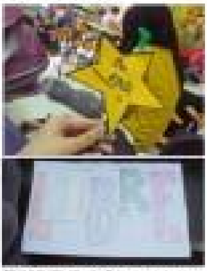
WE'VE ALL been warned before: don't talk to strangers.

[illegible]

It can be done

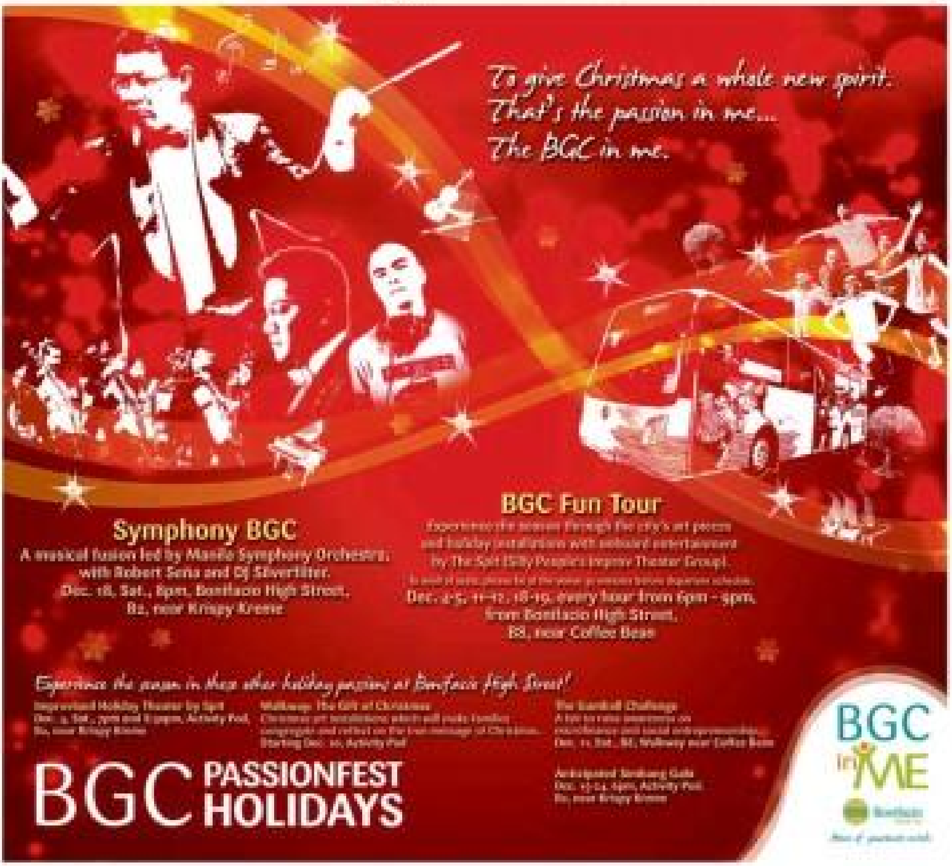
[illegible]

Random acts of consideration are good for you

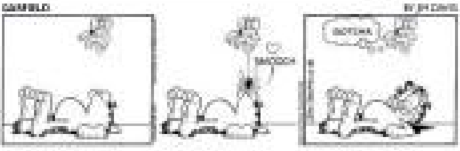


[illegible]





GARFIELD



A. UPIN



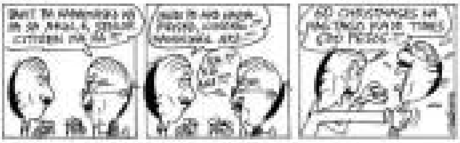
PUGAD BABOY



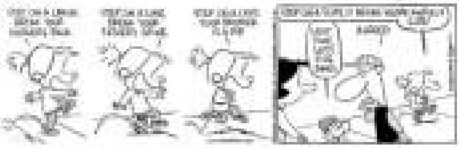
DICK TRACY

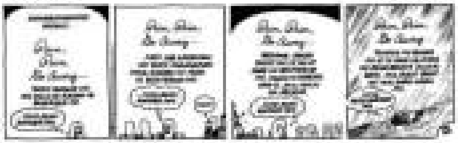


LOVELOTS



BABY BLUES





BEN



ZYRA



SHERMAN'S LAGOON





HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

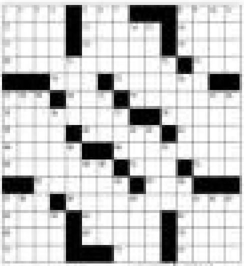
		9	1			7		
			5					
1				4				3
5	2			9	4			
		8				6		
			2	3			9	1
3				1				9
					2			
		7			9	8		

Difficulty Level ★★★★

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

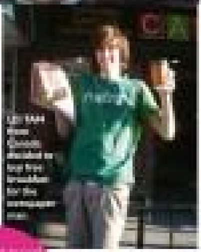
DOWN



Hello, stranger–changing the world…

From page F1

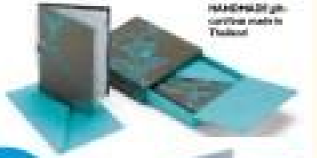




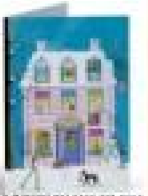
Ridiculous warnings

Restoring faith

Cards and gifts that give life to Filipino children



HANDMADE gift certificate made in Thailand



DAYS of Christmas advent calendar



Gift ideas from weekend markets and bazaars

By Ivanna Aguiling
Contributor







(CLOCKWISE, from left) Ginger Macarons, Bodie Fleming Day Clarks, Better Sweet Spot Red Velvet Cupcake

From cupcakes and cookies to makeup and footwear



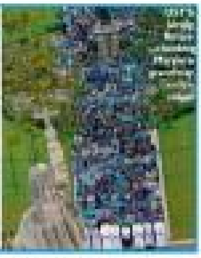
CHERRY Colors Zoie Laptop Bag and (below) Angelina Lunchbox



More gift ideas

UST holds 25,000-strong living rosary

The Thomasian Community was abloom in blue, yellow and white shirts



EASTWOOD MALL WINS SHOPPING CENTER OF THE YEAR



Eastwood Mall – the flagship commercial development of Megaworld Corporation – recently won the Shopping Center of the Year Award bestowed by the Philippine Retailers Association (PRA). The two-year old high-end mall in Quezon City was awarded last December 8 in PRA's Outstanding Filipino Retailers and Shopping Center of the Year Night.

Eastwood Mall is the completion of the unique Eastwood City experience. It was a remarkable win for Megaworld and Eastwood in particular, being fairly new in the mall industry and a first time nominee in the Best Shopping Center of the year competition.

"Our win as Shopping Center of the Year only means that you don't have to be a veteran in the mall industry to be recognized," said Kevin L. Tan, vice president and head of Megaworld Commercial Division. "Innovation, creativity, and excellent service – aspects that we value most at Eastwood – are indeed the perfect combination to run a successful and well loved mall such as ours," added Tan, the 31 year old whiz behind Megaworld Commercial Division.





In the last two years, Eastwood Mall had re-defined the mall culture in the country. It pioneered several concepts in commercial developments such as having a full concierge with butler service; chef-driven restaurants; and a cinema that has twin fully reclining seats with bottomless drinks and popcorn that have been since the benchmark for several malls in the country.



"We are overwhelmed with the recognition and we thank PRA and its esteemed judges for making us Shopping Center of the Year, despite us being new and young as compared to our other competitors," Tan enthused.

Eastwood Mall is one of the several malls owned by Megaworld Corporation in Metro Manila, along with Eastwood City Walk 1 and 2 and Eastwood Cyber and Fashion Mall at Eastwood City; Newport Mall at Resorts World Manila; Venice Piazza, McKinley Hill and Burgos Circle, both in Fort Bonifacio; among others.

Visit Eastwood Mall today. For inquiries, please call the Eastwood Mall Concierge. For more details on promotions, events and list of stores, visit www.eastwoodcity.com. Be a fan of www.facebook.com/eastwoodcity | www.twitter.com/eastwoodmall

HOLIDAY MALL HOURS
Dec. 17-23, 2010 : open until midnight except on Dec. 21-22, 2010 open until 11:00 pm only
Dec. 24, 2010 : 11:00am – 9:00pm | Dec. 25, 2010 12:00 – 11:00pm

2b LifeStyle

Inside
• Rebel yell
Not your typical holiday dressing / G2















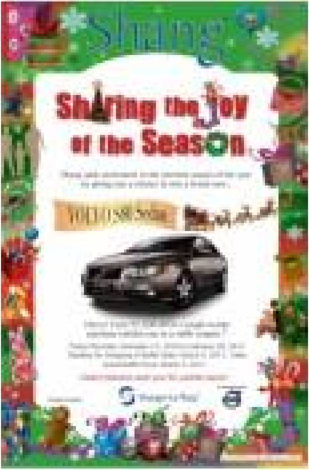






Rebel *yell*






My DIAMOND
Gift Gems that Glow and Glitter
Let My Diamond dazzle you with jewelry pieces that your loved one will definitely treasure or you'll infinitely love when kept for yourself.
Decodent Decor
Accessorize your home with decoration that gives holiday cheer. Glamorize your outfit with jewelry that takes the breath away.
Ring in the New Year
Commit to a better you and celebrate the new year with style & sophistication. Start the year right and be elegant whole year round.
Delicious Dining with Diamonds
Bring out your fine cutlery to make mealtime more memorable. Bring out with the finest jewelry to make Christmas a time nobody will forget.
Hot, Hot, Haute Holiday's Best
When in doubt, choose classics with flattering cuts. But always accentuate your outfit with statement pieces
Confectionary Creations
Add embellishments to a sweet dessert with colorful sprinkles. Multiply compliments to an already delicate look with delectable diamonds.
MY DIAMOND STORES

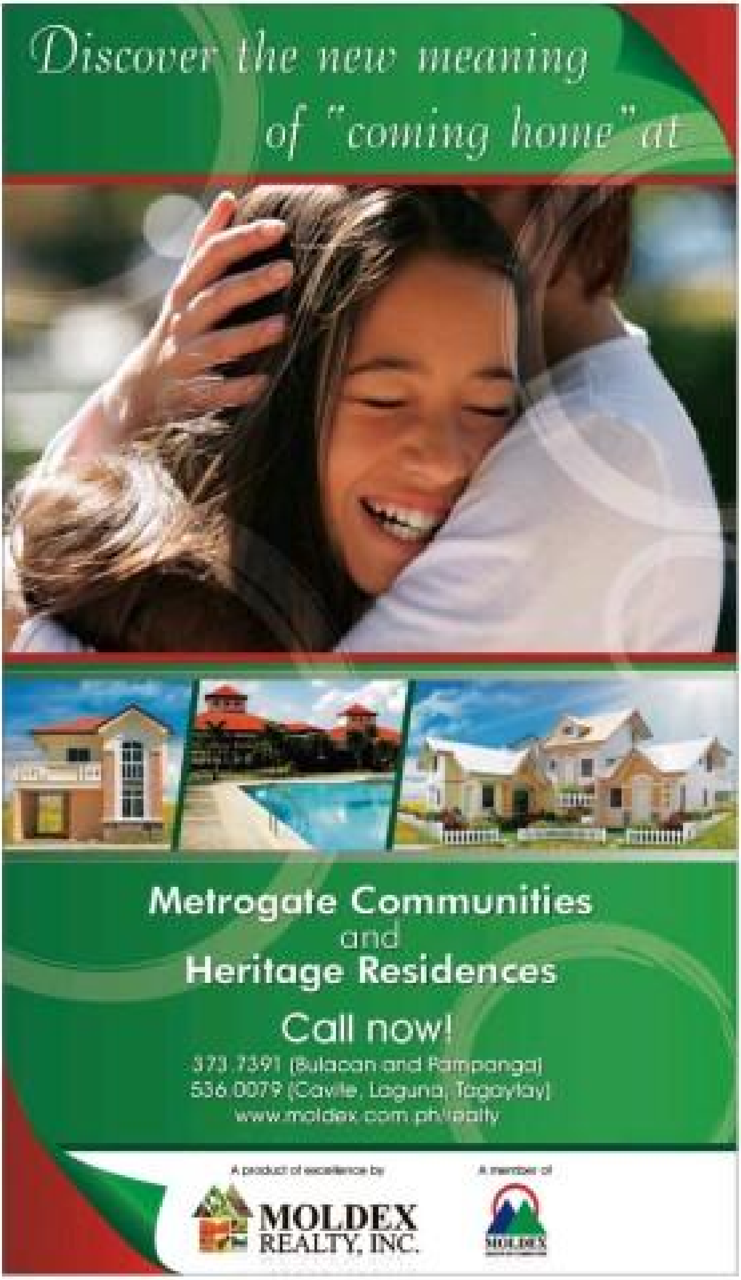


How Facebook could have solved the Vizconde massacre

The social networking site could have provided leads for investigators



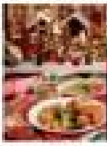




A weekly directory of the country's best establishments

Where to Stop Where to Go

Christmas like no other at The Bellevue



Hyatt offers the best deals this season



OXFORD SUITES MAKATI HOSTS FAM TRIP

Giant earth ball only at Caliraya Resort

Berjaya Manila Hotel's Christmas offerings

Boracay Mandarin's holiday feasts

Bring the holiday cheer within your reach



Two plus one Christmas celebration

Let's have breakfast!

Best Western Premier Hotel to open February 2011





CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AT CPH

Montebello Villa Hotel, Hong Kong Express ink moa

Holiday cheers at Pan Pacific Manila



Perfect Peri-Peri party packages

It's a season to cherish at Richmonde Hotel

Shangri-La's Mactan Resort and Spa, Cebu caps the year with a victory



Hubert's web of tweets

iamhubertwebb

Need to get to this Farmville. Do I have to pass through South Superhighway?

Not a good morning guys. First, think someone stole my Depp hair gel. Do NOT mess with my hair! gel!

What does this text mean?! It's just letters!!! – "wr n u? m hr n."

hoping to bump into my top 5 – Anjanette Abayari, Amanda Paige, Ina Raymundo, Nanette Medved, Dindi Gallardo. Niiiice.

Wait, how do you put a CD into this iPod thing?



HOT TOPIC

Twitter's take on Hubert Webb

How Facebook could have solved the Vizconde ...

Super LifeStyle

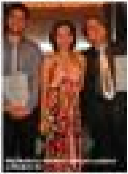


'Trese's' Victory

In their first post-award interview, Kajo and Budjette talk about the success of 'Trese,' the importance of their fans, transmedia storytelling, and the future of Philippine komiks.



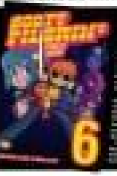
'Trese's' victory



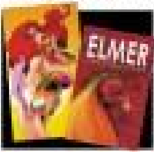


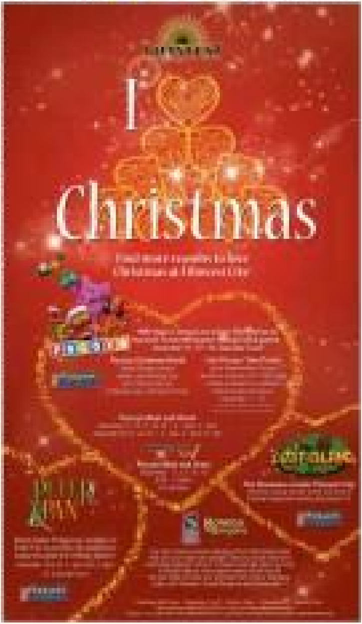


Great 'Scott!'



Pinoy comics' pride and possibilities







Elegant flats

Simple, stylish yet functional, these elegant flats also come in fun ruffles that make dressing up a little more exciting.



Pink flat with rose puff

Happy steps

Holiday shopping gets a little more fun when SM Department Store showcases **Sugarkids**. The hippest and most stylish kids shoes for your pretty little ones that is also not heavy on the pocket.





Purple bootie with buckle

Black bootie with buckle and studs

Flower cut-out booties in purple

Pink bootie with butterfly cut-outs

Cute booties

Perfect for the holiday weather, these booties make your little one oh so street chic.

Fun metallic

Sugarkids offers a wide arrange of metallic flats that compliments the holiday atmosphere.





Super LifeStyle

SUPER! EXCLUSIVE

Playtime with 'Culture: Japan's' Danny Choo



Get to know the guru of Japanese pop culture and the guy behind the "Dancing Stormtrooper" persona

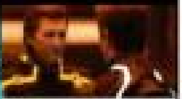




From 'House' to 'Tron'

Olivia Wilde talks about the incredible world they have built for audiences to see





[illegible]

Why 'Narnia' matters



By Elaine Lipworth



Douglas Gresham, stepson of C.S. Lewis and a Lewis scholar himself, discusses the new 'Narnia' film and the late author's legacy

[illegible]




As seen
on holiday
gift lists
everywhere.

Playtime with 'Culture: Japan's' Danny Choo



CHOO is the guru of Japanese pop culture.



DANNY with cosplayers



THE show features everything Japanese



CHOO creates content that is interesting for people in and outside Japan.



24/7 Super Radar

Merry-making, merry giving

2bU LifeStyle

Who cares?





Perhaps you're the type to care excessively for others. Or maybe you care only a bit, and never think of anyone but yourself

No one cares about you

My lovable pet

Learn to care

Festive dressing

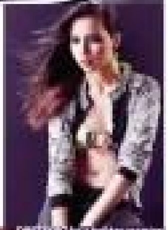
Pretty tutus, print on print combination, layering-studded tops—it's high time to shine



GO FOR prints on prints.

Michelangelo-inspired collection

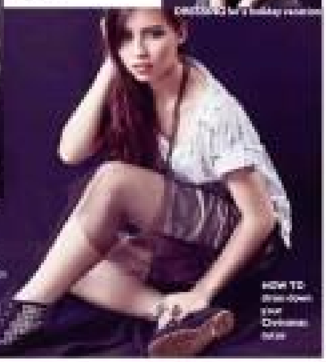




DRESSING for a holiday vacation



INVEST on a leather jacket.



HOW TO dress down your Christmas look



Student movies depict water problem



Real Men Come Clean























A fashion *exploration*

***Grazilda*'s leading lady Glaiza de Castro is still finding her footing in fashion, but she's not forgetting her laid-back roots**



THE MILANO RESIDENCES
CELEBRATES THE ITALIAN HIGH LIFE

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have your very own private plunge pool inside your condo unit? No more elevator rides to access your building's common areas; no more sharing the pool with complete strangers; and no more scheduling with the building manager for exclusive poolside gatherings.







Editor [illegible] • Associate Editor [illegible]

SATURDAY Special

Mobile Alert: [illegible] | Website: [illegible] | E-mail: [illegible]

Boots Anson-Roa savors the best that Eastern Europe has to offer



BOOTS (WITH DAUGHTER, CHIQUI): Has been circling the globe to shoot a series of religious documentaries.

By [illegible]

FOR THE PAST couple of years, Boots Anson-Roa and I have been circling the globe to shoot a series of religious documentaries, going on a joint lecture tour of Saudi Arabia, etc. In the process, I've gotten to know Boots a lot better—and still love what I see.

A few months ago, we joined a Journeys of Faith pilgrimage and tour of Eastern Europe culminating in Germany to catch a period performance of the acclaimed Oberammergau Passion Play, which is staged only every 10 years.

Journeys' driving force and peripatetic maven, [illegible], is a mutual friend and [illegible] tripper, so Boots and I felt right at home with her as we explored awe-inspiring religious sites in Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Germany—while shooting additional footage for our new Marian documentary. (Call Journeys at [illegible], mobile [illegible] or email [illegible] for its 2011 pilgrimages, tours and cruises.)

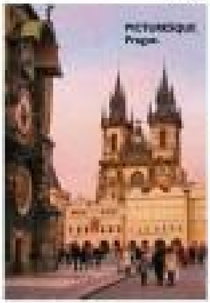
Great start

Our trip got off to a great start when the Emirates airline upgraded us to business class, allowing us to savor special perks like being able to sleep supine during the long flight to Europe in our individual cocoons or sleep pods, after being tucked in by a svelte stewardess, [illegible].

Also most appreciated by us was our plane's complete and complex entertainment system, which enabled us to choose from literally hundreds of movies in a great number of languages, Filipino included.

Our pilgrimage had many highlights, starting right off with a visit to Wadowice, the birthplace of Pope John Paul II. Since

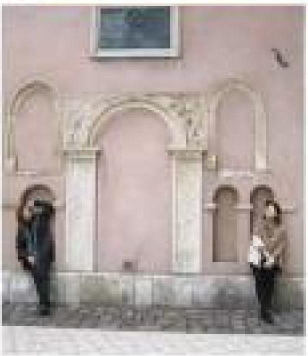
BOOTS, [illegible]

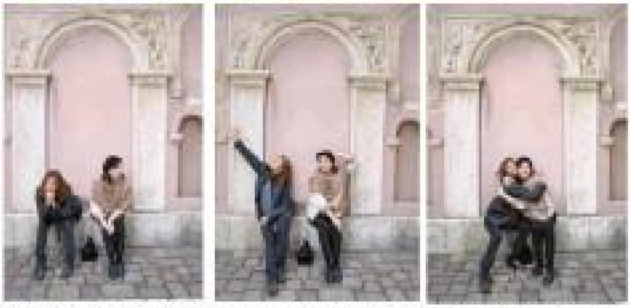


PICTURESQUE Prague.



BOOTS (left) [illegible] palace guard's stiff pose and stern countenance to get him to smile—in vain.



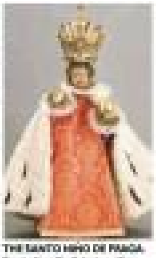




CHIQUI and Boots before watching the Oberammergau Passion Play at its imposing new venue.

Boots Anson-Roa savors the best . . .

From page 1



THE SANTO NIÑO DE PRAGA. Symbolizes God's loving gift to the undeserving world.

Message

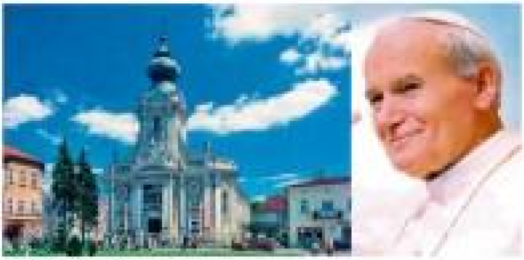
Other highlights





ANSON-ROA. Perfect fellow pilgrim.





WADOWICE, birthplace of Pope John Paul II (right).

Tough times on the road for bands in 2010







BON JOVI, Lady Gaga and Paul McCartney are among this year's top touring acts.

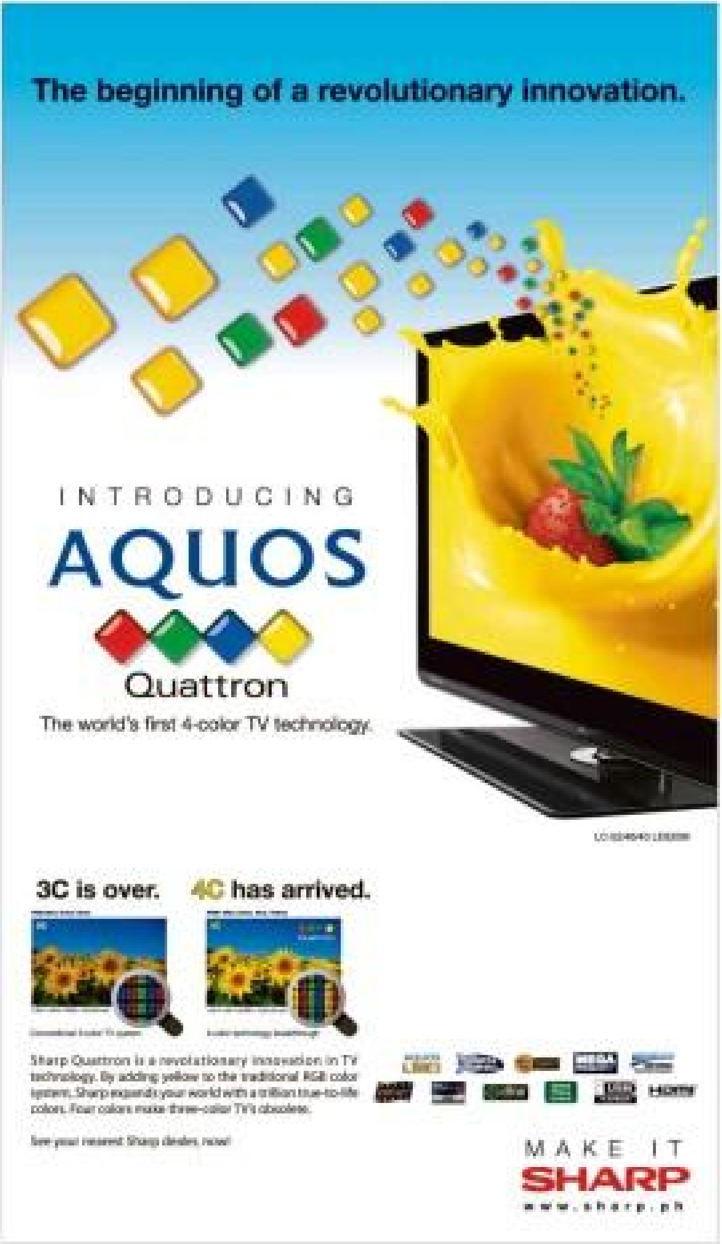
Enduring draw

Recession

National Board of Review lauds 'Social Network'




EISENBERG AND BALE: Declared Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor, respectively

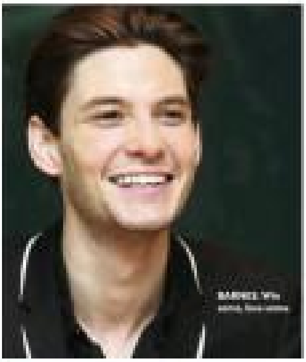


Disturbing . . .

'Narnia' cast talks about saying goodbye



KEYNES: Serious about his studies.



BARNES

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD



Ruben V. Nepales

Flashbacks

Desperate

Most disarming smile



HENLEY: "All good things must come to an end."

Considerations

AM/FM

Disturbing episode on morning talk show

Pinoy

Saturday Special

New child wonder is too perky for her own good

By Nestor U. Torre

THE LOCAL entertainment scene's new child star of the season is 5-year-old Jillian Ward. She's pretty, pert, precocious and has become very popular in less than a year. That's an impressive achievement for one so young and new, especially in a TV season that has so many child talents vying for viewers' attention and adulation.

All told, however, little Jillian's success is not as impressive as it first appears. She was given her big break as the new "Trudis Liit," the original production of which launched the Vilma Santos' own career as a child star decades ago.

Protagonist

Little Vilma was right for the role because she was a waif, and thus completely credible and empathetic as the original movie's pathetic protagonist. On the other hand, Jillian is quite chubby and not at all pathetic. In fact, she looks like she can take care of herself, thank you very much—so, the pathos quotient in her version of "Trudis Liit" was decidedly deficient.

Despite being miscast as Trudis, however, Jillian's perky act was lapped up by viewers. It was amazing that somebody so young could be such a confident, little performer, so we understood why they doted on her—albeit for the wrong reasons.

Emotional scenes

Later, however, her career boosters went on to aver that Jillian was "the new Aiza Seguerra." Hey, wait a minute, that's revving up the raves too much. Little Aiza was much more versatile than Jillian, who's generally good only when she's "perky," but falls short in truly touching emotional scenes.

In addition, she has the habit of delivering her dialogue in an automatic, "declaiming" way, thus betraying the fact that she's merely memorized her lines, instead of truly understanding and feeling them.

These days, Jillian is starring in the new teleserye, "[illegible]," which casts her as

NEXT PG



WARD: Can learn a lesson or two from former child superstars, Niño Muhlach and Aiza Seguerra (insets).



MARQUEZ (RIGHT): The gorgeous campus sweetheart made many heads turn.

A THOUSAND WORDS

Fil-Am beauty was local TV's first musical star

Large class

New crooner

Composer

Germ professional, mature singing contest and other boob-tube booboos

BOOB TUBE BooBoos

Lucky colors

Raining

Angry words



New child wonder is too perky for her own good

Temperament

Dialogue

FANS' DAY

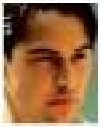
Do singers make good actors?

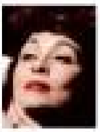




Other observations:

4 most irresistible guilty-pleasure movies





Food memories

Tantrums

TOP STYLISTS PICK THE PRETTIEST PARTY LOOKS FOR KIDS AT SM



ANNE BELLA'S CHOICE: A floral print dress worn with ribbons on the hair as accents

'Tis the time of year when kids dress up for the endless whirl of holiday parties – from family reunions, to class parties, to fun get-togethers. And for once, they'll be setting aside their jeans and tees to put on [illegible] dresses for pretty princesses.

SM Kids has asked some of Manila's top stylists to help Moms pick the party perfect outfit for their little girls this December. Aggo Bengzon at SM Megamall and Anna Balaw at SM North Edsa and Donna Cuna-Pita at SM Mall of Asia on December 19 to share their dressing up tips.

They'll be picking the prettiest party look for kids with Anna Tobias at SM Makati and Donna Cuna-Pita at SM North EDSA on December 18. All sessions will be held at the Children's Wear Department from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Check out the prettiest party looks for kids – plus some expert advice from top stylists – during these schedules at the SM Department Stores in Makati, Megamall, SM City North EDSA, and the SM Mall of Asia.



ANA BALAW'S CHOICE: A pretty rose trimmed chiffon dress for little princesses – worn with a tiara of course

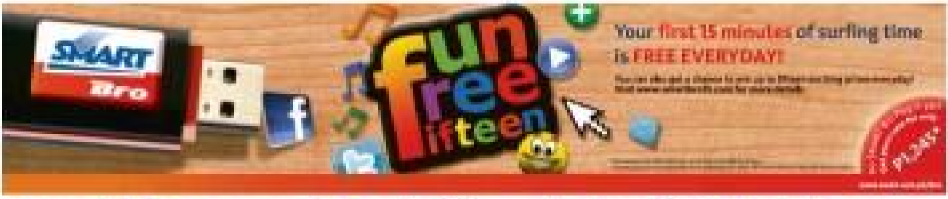


AGGO BENGZON'S CHOICE: A dream dress with rose appliqués on the bodice



DONNA CUNA-PITA'S CHOICE: A lovely layered lace dress for little ladies

SATURDAY Special



Inspiring carols vivify spirit of Christmas

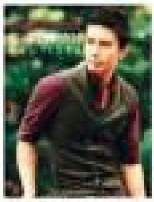

"GLEE" CAST. Feisty and charm-filled tracks

By [illegible]

IF YOU want to listen to music that brings out the inspiring and invigorating spirit of the holidays, the following are on top of our list this season.

"Glee: The Music, The Christmas Album" will no doubt boost sagging spirits with its corny and charm-filled tracks, led by Chris Colfer and Darren Criss' [illegible] rendering of Frank Loesser's "Baby, It's Cold Outside," Lea Michele and the cast's [illegible] "We Need A Little Christmas," and Amber Riley's showstopping "Angels We Have Heard on High." Other noteworthy tracks: "The Most Wonderful Day of the Year," "Jingle Bells" and "Merry Christmas, Darling."


CAREY. Her latest collection has fun, [illegible] and [illegible].


BAUTISTA. His voice evokes romance, nostalgia, melancholy and Yuletide cheer.

Your new Christmas collection wouldn't be complete without Katharine McPhee's "Christmas Is The Time To Say I Love You," which includes a sizzling version of "Jingle Bells," reimagined versions of Lennon's uncontextually upbeat "What Are You Doing New Year's Eve?" and [illegible] "Silver Bells," and the memorable ballad, "It's Not Christmas Without You," which the "American Idol" [illegible] runner-up cowrote with Michelle Lewis and Doug Beny.

McPhee's malleable, satin-like voice soars even more in her cover of Whitney Houston's "Who Would Imagine A King?," and in the ingenious mashup of "A Little Town of Bethlehem" and "Away In A Manger."

Mariah Carey's "Merry Christmas II You," the pop diva's second Christmas album after 1994's "Merry Christmas," also features radio-friendly tunes that will have her fans grooving ("Oh Santa!," "Here Comes Santa Claus"), [illegible] ("All I Want For Christmas Is You," "When Christmas Comes," "The First Noel/Born [illegible]

CONTINUED ON [illegible]

Gwyneth Paltrow, fans are giddy over 'Glee'

LOS ANGELES—After her much-talked-about appearance on "Glee" last month, Gwyneth Paltrow will reprise her role as substitute teacher, Holly Holliday, which she said has given her a new and younger group of fans.

"It was great fun," Paltrow told Reuters of doing the show the first time around. "The other day, I was in Chicago doing the movie, 'Contagion.' I was in my trailer, which was in a parking lot by a school—and there were young girls who were like, 'Oh my God, you were on "Glee"!'"

The actress said the girls were "literally on the floor," making bowing motions with their hands toward the actress. "I was like, 'This is hilarious!,'" she beamed.

On the Nov. 16 episode of the show, Paltrow sang a cover version of rapper Cee Lo's "Forget You" and a mashup of the classic tunes, "Singin' In The Rain," and Rihanna's "Umbrella," with Matthew Morrison.

After the show aired, Cee Lo praised Paltrow for her version of his song. The two have never met, but the actress said she has "always wanted to meet him, I love his music, and I'm such a fan."

Question

Paltrow also wants to ask the rapper a specific question dealing with her dad, Bruce Paltrow, who died in 2002 of complications from cancer and pneumonia. "Cee Lo's first record with Gnarls Barkley was called 'St. Elsewhere,' after my dad's show," explained Paltrow. "You kind of grasp at any connection to your beloved parent. So, I wonder if there's any connection there."

After making her return to movies, going back to TV with "Glee" proved to be a joy "I relished it," she admitted. Details of her next episode were being kept quiet, but her newfound admirers will have plenty of Paltrow to anticipate.

The Academy Award-winning actress takes on country singing in her upcoming film, "Country Strong." Reuters


PALTROW. Newfound admirers.



Sally Hawkins is happy-go-lucky over her career



HAWKINS: Topbills Mike Leigh's "Made in Dagenham."

Work ethic

Getting inside Tim Burton's head



BURTON: Has distinguished himself as the top Hollywood director for all things weird, wacky, macabre and beautiful.



"EDWARD SCISSORHANDS." A personal connection.

Concepts

Image



"ALICE IN WONDERLAND." Bizarre and beautiful at the same time.

'The Tourist' is a mindlessly enjoyable trip



JOLIE AND DEPP: She provides the sultry action, he offers the sweet, goofy laughs.

Pedigree

Angry gangster

CMMA honor a boost to our advocacies



Media

Censorship

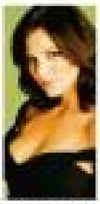
Michelle Yeoh returns to martial arts genre



Absence

Inspiring carols ...

Good tidings



12 Golden Globe nominations for HBO productions

HBO RECENTLY received 12 Golden Globe nominations—the most for any TV network this year. "Boardwalk Empire" and "Temple Grandin" led with three nods each. ("Boardwalk Empire" premieres here on Jan. 9, 2011, with two episodes airing back-to-back at 9 p.m. on HBO/HBO HD.)

Other HBO citations: "You Don't Know Jack," "The Special Relationship," "Hung" and "The Pacific." The Golden Globe Awards will be announced in Los Angeles on Jan. 16 next year.

On Discovery Channel

Every Wednesday at 9 p.m., "Living Cities" [illegible]

"Swords 2," on the high-risk world of New England's long-line fishermen, starts telecasting every Monday at 12 p.m. beginning Dec. 20.

"Powering the Future" is a four-part series [illegible] Premieres every Thursday at 9 p.m., starting Dec. 23.









CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: "BOARDWALK EMPIRE," "HUNG," "YOU DON'T KNOW JACK" AND "TEMPLE GRANDIN." Some of the leading network's acclaimed series.

MONTAGE

Sun Cellular Plan 450

Sun Cellular has come up with [illegible]

'Kapalaran ng Diyos'

[illegible]

'Nick Knock Out'

[illegible]

'Your Songs'

[illegible]

Noel Bazaar

Ongoing until Dec. 23 at the World Trade Center, the Noel Bazaar [illegible]

Movies on TV

On HBO today at 9 p.m., "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone." [illegible]

'24 Oras'

"24 Oras," the Kapuso primetime newscast of GMA-7, [illegible]

[illegible]

Christmas hymns at Sta. Lucia

[illegible]



TIANGCO AND ENRIQUEZ. Their newscast was honored at the 15th Asian Awards.



SALONGA. Releases CD/DVD of her PICC concert.

SATURDAY Special

NOW SHOWING

Wahlberg's gritty boxing drama packs a mighty punch





Brilliant but unreliable

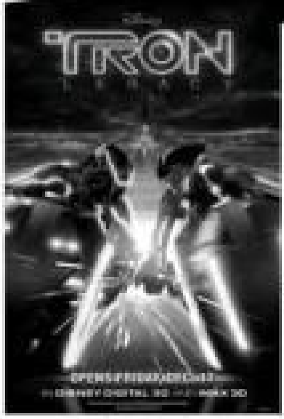
Journey

Repetitive glitches derail 'Puso ng Pasko's' laudable intentions

visit: www.smcinema.com

SM CINEMA

Event!



JOIN US AT SM CINEMAS!

December 18, 2010 (Saturday)

SM Mall of Asia IMAX Lobby, Cinema Lobby and San Miguel by the Bay

1:30pm - 6:30 PM

IMAX

metro manila

luzon

visayas - mindanao

OFFERS A WIDE VARIETY OF FOOD AND DRINKS AT ALL SM CINEMA LOBBIES

At the Cinemas

GLORIETTA 4

GREENBELT 1

GREENBELT 3

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

TRINOMA

MARKET! MARKET!

AYALA CENTER CEBU

MARQUEE



EXPERIENCE IT BEST

NOW SHOWING

at AYALA MALLS CINEMAS

3D

DIGITAL CINEMAS

At the Malls

GLORIETTA

GREENBELT

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

BONIFACIO HIGH STREET

MARKET! MARKET!

TRINOMA

MARQUEE

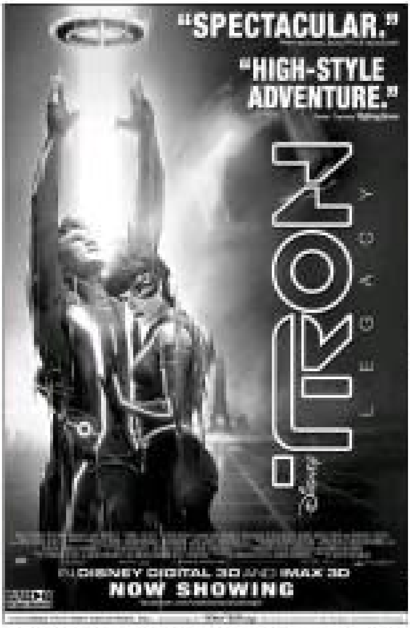


A Spellbinding Christmas at TriNoma

MARQUEE MALL

Repetitive glitches derail 'Puso ng Pasko's' laudable intentions



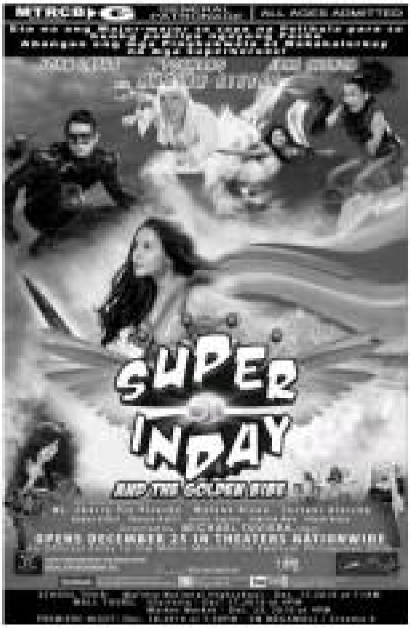


Reaction

More exciting









YULETIDE STORY FOR YOUNG READERS

The Santo Niño nobody wanted



Heavy box

Roast chicken





'Senior Year' examines life after graduation

Marketing style

SATURDAY Special

Singaporean wins big in 'Biggest Loser Asia'



Raj (second from left) delights in his victory, while Gengkis (second from right) is content with his third-place finish.

By Edmund L. Sison

IT WAS the moment of truth for the three finalists in "The Biggest Loser Asia (Second Season)"—24-year-old Gengkis Khan Enrique from the Philippines, Adkom Laksanpanui (Yod), 28, from Thailand, and Virajanandan Devraj (Raj), 24, from Singapore.

The season started with 14 overweight contestants, and after 13 grueling weeks of intensive workouts, various physical challenges and a rigid diet, the group had lost a total of 693 kg. However, 11 of them had been eliminated, and it was now down to the final three. One of them was going home with US$100,000 for losing the most amount of weight, percentage-wise.

Last Tuesday, I was one of more than a hundred people who filled a MediaCorp Studio in Singapore to witness the taping of the show's two-hour finale that would be aired at 9 p.m. the same day on Hallmark. The group included relatives and friends of the contestants, and trainers from Fitness First.

Final weigh-in

Before the final weigh-in, however, there were preliminary features on what everyone's interest and excitement. There were interviews with the 11 who were previously eliminated. The two trainers, Raley Gante and Rick Noble, joined host Rhianne Cannon to share their impressions of the contestants.

Then, Marion announced the winner of the "At Home Contestant" competition involving participants in the Fitness First weight-loss program. The $10,000 prize would go to the person who managed to lose the most weight.

The winner was Filipina Andrea Vilaraya, a respiratory therapist, who had been eliminated in the first episode. I spoke to her after the show, and she told me that she would use part of her prize to visit her aunt in Japan, as well as Tokyo Disneyland.

Another prize

Another prize went to Singaporean Mohamed Mohammed (Fatir) for losing the most weight, percentage-wise (36.46 percent), among the 11 who were eliminated. His prize: Several days at a Grand Park hotel, anywhere in the world.

Finally, it was time for the all-important final weigh-in. First up was the Filipino. He had lost a total of 57 kg from his starting weight of 151 kg. That represented a loss of 35.15 percent. Impressive—but, was it enough to get ahead of his opponents?

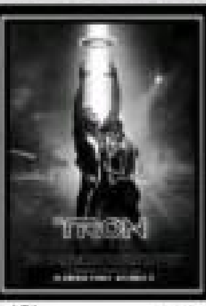
Next on the scale was Raj, who started at "TBLA" with a weight of 144 kg. His weight was 77 kg, an incredible weight reduction of 67 kg, which represented a 46.53 percent drop. Gengkis was no longer in contention. Raj was ahead at this point.

Yod was last to go. He had been a heavy favorite to win the competition. He had consistently bested the rest in various challenges. To me, it was a foregone conclusion that he would win. To accomplish that feat, he needed to lose at least 64 kg. Sadly, he lost only 63 kg.

So Raj, the lovable big, upset the Thai, much to the delight of his relatives and friends in the audience. Understandably, the Singaporeans had the most supporters. It was a sweet victory, because he had auditioned for the first season and didn't get in. Accepting his prize, he said he wanted to help people with weight problems so they can get their lives back.



ENRIQUE: Pinoy's impressive performance wasn't enough for him to surge ahead of his opponents.





Hymns for a Special Person

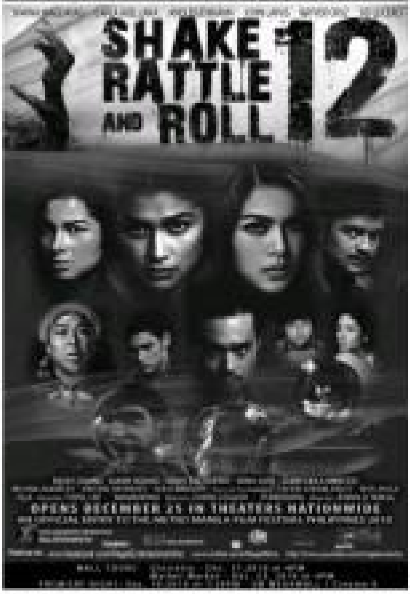
Lotus Pond

R. Valencia and S. Bismark

[illegible]

Greatest gift

[illegible]





Critics say Jackson album ...

From page P4

[illegible]

Reuters

Child-friendly TV advocacy stresses ...

From page P4

[illegible]

Positive feedback

[illegible]



'Manay' Gina keeps her promises

STREET SMART



Mandy Navasero





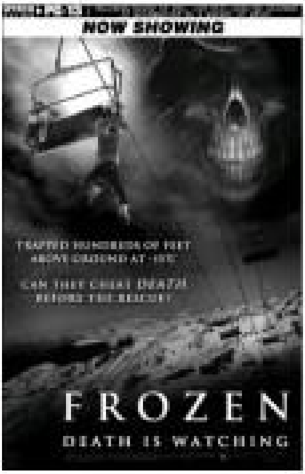












Child-friendly TV advocacy stresses need for more discerning viewers



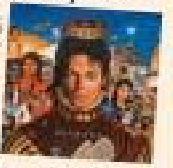




Medium

More discerning

Critics say Jackson album is better than expected



Standards

Confidence

LIFESTYLE







Mom and daughter bonding: Dawn's one year old daughter, [illegible], went to Robinsons Department Store [illegible] with Dawn for Christmas shopping. [illegible]

Cool sophisticate

[illegible]

Dawn's guide to gift-giving

By Paul Palmero

With award-winning actress, celebrity, fashion/lifestyle icon, wife, mother-and [illegible] shopper-all under her name, Dawn Zulueta-Lagdameo shares the real deal about shopping for the holidays.

[illegible]



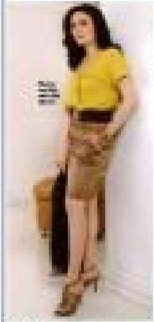
'Christmas time is my most favorite time of the year. I plan my activities in September, finalize my list by October, and begin shopping by then'

[illegible]



Robinsons Department [illegible]

Style up your holiday







Go chic after dark







All dolled up for the holidays

Christmas is almost upon us; Robinsons Department Store has the perfect kiddie holiday outfits

Dressy Styles



Go for glam







L-R: Jose Quo Lico, Mrs. Elizabeth Gokongwei, Dawn Zulueta, Marcel and Danny Mehmed of ..., ... of Robinsons



L-R: Jojo Di Gaceta of Waltermart, Monsignor Jose Lacap, ... Mall of Asia Philippines

Robinsons Department Store opens in Waltermart San Fernando

Robinsons Department Store officially opens in San Fernando Pampanga. Located in Barangay San Agustin, it boasts of international and local brands like Folio, Brickles, Jag, Lee, Elle, Adidas, Converse, and Treadwalker for home furnishings to name a few.

The branch also houses a Business Center where bills payments, foreign exchange, concert ticket purchasing, Cebu Pacific ticketing, and money remittance services are available.

Certainly, this 4th branch of Robinsons Department Store in Pampanga is going to be one of the hottest and hardest places to go to.



Dawn even left an autograph for her fans



All the popular men's brands



Looking cool in the boys' wear section



You need not to go far to look for the latest sneakers



Fun outfits for girls



Toys R Us: kids will have a field day going around Toybox



Dawn thanking the guests and inviting them to do their Christmas shopping at Robinsons Department Store



Dawn greeting her fans during the opening